

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-01

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, CA

SUBJ: TELEVISION POLICY QUESTION: MICROWAVE RELAY

1. FOLLOWING UP DECEMBER 17 STATE-FCC MEETING, TCO TOUCHED BASE WITH LOCAL ATTORNEY FOR BUFFALO STATIONS RE EXTENT TO WHICH CANADIAN CABLE SYSTEMS ARE DEPENDENT ON MICROWAVE RELAYS. ATTORNEY ADVISED NO CANADIAN PUBLICATION DESCRIBING THIS IS AVAILABLE; INFORMATION COULD BE OBTAINED FROM RECORDS SEARCH AT CRTC BUT THIS WOULD BE TIME CONSUMING. HOWEVER, HE MADE QUICK CHECK OF "TELEVISION FACT BOOK", SERVICE VOLUME, PUBLISHED BY TELEVISION DIGEST, INC., WASHINGTON, D.C. WHICH GIVES SOME INFORMATION ON MICROWAVE. PICTURE WHICH EMERGED WAS THAT ALL OF NOVA SCOTIA, MUCH OF NEW BRUNSWICK (OTHER THAN ST. STEPHENS AND EDMONSTON), AND MOST OF ALBERTA CABLE SYSTEMS MUST UTILIZE MICROWAVE RELAYS OF U.S. STATIONS. VERY LITTLE DEPENDENCE IN MANITOBA, QUEBEC, ONTARIO (EXCEPT SUDBURY AREA). NO CABLE TV IN SASKATCHEWAN YET--BUT ALSO APPLICATIONS (BELIEVED TO INVOLVE MICROWAVE) ARE PENDING. SOME SMALLER B.C. CABLE SYSTEMS USE MICROWAVE.

2. COMMENT: IN ATTORNEY'S VIEW, ALBERTA AND NOVA SCOTIA ARE SIGNIFICANT POLITICALLY AND, IF USG COULD SECURE
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RECOGNITION OF PRINCIPLE IN ARTICLE 21 OF INTER-AMERICAN

RADIO CONVENTION SO THAT CABLE SYSTEMS MUST OBTAIN
AUTHORIZATION FROM STATIONS OF ORIGIN, IT MIGHT BE
POSSIBLE TO EXTEND PRINCIPLE OF AUTHORIZATION TO SYSTEMS
IN REST OF COUNTRY NOT PRESENTLY USING MICROWAVE. ALSO,
IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT MOST SPECULATION ABOUT DEVICES
TO BE EMPLOYED BY TORONTO AREA SYSTEMS TO GET AROUND
PROPOSED BUFFALO JAMMING SEEM TO DEPEND ON MICROWAVE
LINKS. PORTER

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